

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. Canceled ✓

2. Canceled ✓

3. Canceled ✓

4. Canceled ✓

1 5. (Unchanged) An electronic database used as a depository for electronic documents generated
2 during E-commerce transactions, comprising:

3 means for automatically receiving an electronic document after an E-commerce transaction
4 has completed;

5 means for generating a document ID for said received E-commerce document; and

6 means for storing said electronic document.

1 6. (Unchanged) The electronic database of Claim 5, wherein said means for generating said
2 document ID further includes means for transmitting said document ID to each party to said E-
3 commerce transaction, which produced said electronic document.

1 7. (Unchanged) The electronic database of Claim 5, wherein said means for storing further
2 comprises:

3 means for allowing a later read access to said E-commerce document by a party to said E-
4 commerce transaction; and

5 means for preventing modifications to said E-commerce document after it has been stored.

8. Canceled

9. Canceled

10. Canceled

1 11. (Unchanged) A depository for ensuring the authenticity of electronic documents generated
2 during E-commerce transactions, said depository comprising:

3 means for enabling automatic receipt of an electronic document, in response to a completion
4 of an E-commerce transaction in which said electronic document is created; and

5 means for storing said electronic document in said electronic depository.

1 12. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 11, wherein said storing means includes:

2 means for limiting a write access of said electronic document to a first access; and

3 means for restricting subsequent access to said document to read-only access, such that no
4 changes may be made to said electronic document once it has been stored.

1 13. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 11, further including:

2 means for controlling a read and write access to said electronic depository, wherein said
3 document is stored in a write-once, read-many format;

4 means for generating a document identifier (ID), to identify said electronic document; and

5 means for later retrieving said electronic document for a party to said E-commerce
6 transaction.

1 14. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 13 wherein said controlling means further includes:

2 means for enabling a non-modification function for said electronic document, wherein a
3 control code of said electronic depository is activated to prevent later modification to said electronic
4 document; and

5 means for flagging electronic document within said electronic depository to allow a later read
6 access to said E-commerce document by a party to said E-commerce transaction.

15. ~~Canceled~~

16. ~~Canceled~~

17. ~~Canceled~~

18. ~~Canceled~~